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World Factbook Travel Facts



WORLD
FACTBOOK

South Africa

US State Dept Travel Advisory

The US Department of State currently recommends US citizens **DO NOT TRAVEL** to South Africa due to COVID-19 and related restrictions and conditions. Exercise increased caution in South Africa due to crime and civil unrest. Consult its website via the link below for updates to travel advisories and statements on safety, security, local laws and special circumstances in this country.

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html>

Passport/Visa Requirements

US citizens should make sure their passport will not expire for at least 30 days after they enter the country even if they do not intend to stay that long. They should also make sure they have at least 2 blank pages in their passport for any entry stamp that will be required. A visa is not required as long as you do not stay in the country more than 89 days. Currently South Africa requires that children travel with birth certificates, valid passports, and (if not traveling with both of the parents on the birth certificate), a parental consent letter from both of the parents.

US Embassy/ Consulate

[27] (12) 431-4000; US Embassy Pretoria, 877 Pretorius St, Arcadia, Pretoria, South Africa

Telephone Code

27

Local Emergency Phone

Ambulance: 10177; Fire: 10177; Police: 10111

Vaccinations

Yellow fever vaccine, at least 10 days before arrival, is required for travelers originating from or transiting through WHO-designated yellow fever countries. See WHO recommendations.

<http://www.who.int>

Climate

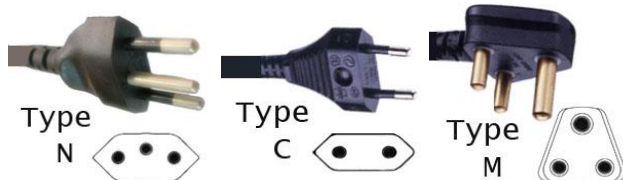
Mostly semiarid; subtropical along east coast; sunny days, cool nights

Currency (Code)

Rand (ZAR)

Electricity/Voltage/Plug Type(s)

230 V / 50 Hz / plug type(s): C, M, N



Major Languages

IsiZulu 24.7%, IsiXhosa 15.6%, Afrikaans 12.1%, Sepedi 9.8%, Setswana 8.9%, English 8.4%, Sesotho 8%, Xitsonga 4%, siSwati 2.6%, Tshivenda 2.5%, isiNdebele 1.6%, other (includes Khoi, Nama, and San languages) 1.9%

Religions

Christian 86%, ancestral, tribal, animist, or other traditional African religions 5.4%, Muslim 1.9%, other 1.5%, nothing in particular 5.2%

Time Difference	UTC+2 (7 hours ahead of Washington, DC, during Standard Time)
Potable Water	Yes
International Driving Permit	Suggested
Road Driving Side	Left
Tourist destinations	Kruger National Park; Cape Town; Kgalagadi (Kalahari) Transfrontier Park; Stellenbosch; Drakensberg; Garden Route; iSimangaliso Wetland Park; Cape of Good Hope; Robben Island (Nelson Mandela's prison); Cradle of Humankind, Gauteng
Major Sports	Rugby, cricket, soccer, boxing
Cultural Practices	Placing both hands together with fingers pointing up is a way to say "thank you."
Tipping Guidelines	It is customary to tip 10-15% for good service in restaurants. For private drivers, 100 rand per person per day is appropriate.

Please visit the following links to find further information about your desired destination.

[World Health Organization \(WHO\) - To learn what vaccines and health precautions to take while visiting your destination. http://www.who.int](http://www.who.int)

[US State Dept Travel Information - Overall information about foreign travel for US citizens. https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel.html](https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel.html)

[To obtain an international driving permit \(IDP\). Only two organizations in the US issue IDPs: American Automobile Association \(AAA\) \(www.aaa.com\) and American Automobile Touring Alliance \(AATA\) \(www.aataidp.com\)](http://www.aaa.com)

How to get help in an emergency? Contact the nearest US embassy or consulate, or call one of these numbers:
from the US or Canada - 1-888-407-4747 or from Overseas - +1 202-501-4444

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